

March 10, 1993

LB 172, 216, 219, 239, 306, 444, 445A, 498
510

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Wesely. We'll now vote on the motion to advance LB 510. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on the advancement of LB 510.

PRESIDENT MOUL: LB 510 is advanced. Mr. Clerk, items for the record.

CLERK: Madam President, Natural Resources reports LB 444 to General File with amendments; and LB 172, General File with amendments. Those signed by Senator Beutler. I have amendments to be printed. Senators Baack, Hillman and Wickersham to LB 239; Senator Wickersham to LB 306; Senator Landis to LB 216 and to LB 219. New A bill. (Read LB 445A by title for the first time. See pages 958-65 of the Legislative Journal.)

Madam President, LB 498 was a bill originally introduced by Senator Wesely. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 19, referred to the Health Committee for public hearing, advanced to General File.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Madam President, members of the Legislature, LB 498 is a bill that has been before the body before, a couple, three years ago. It was introduced, actually it was following the case, the horrible case on December 30th, 1988, where an individual by the name of Michael Fane was killed by police when he had a mental illness and broke down and took hostages at an Omaha beauty salon. That was in 1988. And what had happened was this individual had been brought in to be reviewed to be committed because of his mental illness. And the Mental Health Commitment Board did not determine at that time that he was mentally ill and dangerous and that the threat was an eminent one, and so they did not take the step of committing this individual. It was just a few weeks later that his mental illness deteriorated to a point where he lost control, took hostages, was eventually shot to death by the police at the beauty salon where he held the hostages. The public outcry was a very great one at that time for change, that how could this happen. This individual was obviously sick, had a mental illness, needed to be treated, and yet did not get the system to